
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2023

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2022



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Court-Ordered Environmental Crime Fines

Purpose

The Attorney General is charged with enforcement of Iowa Code chapters [455B](#), [459](#) (subchapters I, II, III, IV, and VI), [459A](#), and [459B](#). The Office of the Attorney General may institute civil or criminal proceedings, including an action for injunction, to enforce these provisions of Iowa law. The Court-Ordered Environmental Crime Fines Fund is created in Iowa Code section [455B.112A](#) under the administration of the Attorney General. This restricted Fund is used for the investigation and prosecution of environmental crimes, including reimbursement of expenses incurred by local government agencies that cooperate with the Attorney General's Office in the investigation and prosecution of environmental crimes.

Funding

Receipts to the Fund include court-ordered fines and restitution awarded to the Office of the Attorney General as part of a judgment in an environmental crime case. Any receipt of fines and restitution in excess of \$20,000 is deposited in the State General Fund. Iowa law provides a standing limited appropriation of not more than \$20,000 annually from the Fund to the Office of the Attorney General for the investigation and prosecution of environmental crimes. The year-end balance carries forward to the next fiscal year. Interest earnings remain in the Fund.

Receipts vary significantly from year to year, ranging from \$0 to the codified cap of \$20,000 annually. Expenditures also vary significantly from year to year, ranging from \$0 to the codified cap of \$20,000 annually. The amount of interest earned is negligible.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters [13](#), [455B](#), [459](#), [459A](#), and [459B](#)

Iowa Code section [455B.112A](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [61](#)

Budget Unit Number

11200000251

Doc ID 1284961

More Information

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